

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



MARCH 11, 2025

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

HUMAN RESOURCES

Congratulations to Michael Beard and Stephanie Hall!

- ❖ **Michael Beard** has been promoted to the position of **Director of Planning and Development/ Building Official**.
- ❖ **Stephanie Hall** has been promoted to **Senior Planner**.

The **Public Works Department** is also excited to welcome a new team member:

- ❖ **Jonathan Del Toro** will be transitioning from the Parks Department to the role of **Streets Heavy Equipment Operator Trainee** starting on March 15th.

In the **Administration Department**, we're pleased to announce a new addition:

- ❖ **Houston Johnson** will begin his role as **Assistant to the City Manager** on March 17th.

Finally, the **Police Department** will welcome two new recruits:

- ❖ **Sabrina Jerrett** and **Jared Tipton** will join the **Police Academy as Police Officer Trainees** starting March 25th.

City staff had the pleasure of welcoming the children for **Friday Fun Days** at Mountainview Elementary on **February 28th**.

Employee Appreciation Day was celebrated with a delicious pancake breakfast, served by City leaders, on **March 7th**.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

Telecommunicator
Heavy Equipment Operator
Water Service Worker
Maintenance Technicians
Light Equipment Operator
Firefighter/EMT (Paramedic Preferred)
Summer Student Library Page
Seasonal Lifeguards
Seasonal Water Safety Instructor
Seasonal Aquatics Cashiers
Seasonal Aquatics Supervisors



THE STEWART C. MEYERS HARKER HEIGHTS LIBRARY

Spring is coming soon! The Library is blooming with displays, programs, and more! Take a break, and read or listen to a good book!

Spring Break is Saturday, March 15 through Saturday, March 22, 2025! The Library is pleased to offer a large schedule of events. There's something for everyone!

Saturday, March 15th, 2025

- ❖ **Stay and Play: Family Games | 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM | For all ages. Families may play board games during this come and go event!**



- ❖ **Pokémon and Yi-Gi-Oh! Card Games | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | For all ages. All ages bring your cards or play with ours to battle! Do you want to learn about Pokémon card games? Are you happy to share your knowledge with others? Everyone is invited. No selling, purchasing, or trading cards is allowed on Library property.**



- ❖ **Magic Show | 2:00 PM | For All Ages. Children and their families may enjoy a magic show by a Library volunteer Magician!**



- ❖ **Sewing Workshop | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Children ages 7-12 years old may register for a sewing workshop. Space is limited, so please call (254) 953-5491.**



Monday, March 17th, 2025

- ❖ **Sewing Workshop | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM** Children ages 7-12 years old may register for a sewing workshop. Space is limited, so please call (254) 953-5491.



Tuesday, March 18, 2025

- ❖ **Babytime | 10:00 AM |** For babies 0-18 months only. No older siblings, please. Babies 0-18 months and their caregivers will work on early literacy concepts using songs and rhymes.
- ❖ **Music Exploration for Kids | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM |** For all ages. From a floor piano to xylophones to boom whackers, see what music you can make. Come and go for a morning of fun! No registration required.



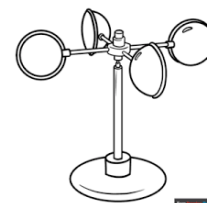
- ❖ **Creative Workshop: Zines & Bookmarks| 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM** for ages 6-11 years | 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM for ages 12-17 years. Connect with other crafters and learn how to create zines and books with an instructor! Perfect for all skill levels!

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

- ❖ **Children's Concert by Joe McDermott| 10:00 AM|** For all ages. Joe McDermott comes from Austin, TX, to entertain children and families with his hilarious children's songs! Registration is not required. The program will fill on a first come, first serve basis, and space is limited. Childcare centers are welcome!



- ❖ **Songwriting for Kids and Teens| 11:00 AM|** For ages 6-14 years old. Children and teens ages 6-14 years old enjoy learning to put together lyrics and tunes for a fun song. No registration required! The program will fill on a first come, first serve basis, and space is limited.
- ❖ **STEAM: Anemometer| 2:00 PM|** For children ages 7-12 years old and their adults. Children 7-12 years old will make an anemometer! Space is limited and registration is required. Please call (254) 953-5496.



Thursday, March 20, 2025

- ❖ **Woo - Woo! I Love Trains Preschool Storytime | 9:00 AM | For children 3-6 years old and their families. Children 3-6 years old and their families visit the Library for stories, songs, rhymes, activities, and more! Space is limited. The program will fill on a first come, first serve basis.**
- ❖ **Woo - Woo! I Love Trains Toddler Time | 10:00 AM | For children 0-3 years old and their families. Children 0-3 years old and their families come for an early literacy program designed for their toddlers' physical, intellectual, and social development. Enjoy songs, stories, finger rhymes, and activities! Space is limited. The program will fill on a first come, first serve basis.**



- ❖ **Busy Builders | 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM | For children of all ages and their families. Learn STEAM concepts through play! Children and their families may come to the Library to build with LEGOS, Magna-Tiles, and more! Adult supervision and assistance required. Not all building items are appropriate for children under the age of four. Registration is not required.**

Saturday, March 22, 2025

- ❖ **Celebrate Seeds with the Library at Harker Heights Outdoor and Science Expo | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM | For all ages. Visit educational booths, participate in outdoor activities, and more during this FREE family event at 307 Millers Crossing, Harker Heights, TX 76548.**



- ❖ **Pokémon and Yi-Gi-Oh! Card Games | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | For all ages. All ages bring your cards or play with ours to battle! Do you want to learn about Pokémon card games? Are you happy to share your knowledge with others? Everyone is invited. No selling, purchasing, or trading cards is allowed on Library property.**

The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library

Tiny Art Kits | Available beginning Saturday, March 15th, 2025 Create tiny art on a tiny canvas! Return your masterpiece to the library to be a part of our Tiny Art Show Exhibit at the Harker Heights Arts Festival on Saturday, April 5th, 2025 at Carl Levin Park (400 Millers Crossing, Harker Heights, TX). Please return your artwork no later than Saturday, March 29th, 2025. The exhibit will move to the Library after the Festival and run from April 12th- 26th, 2025. For all ages. Pick up inside the library as supplies last.



TINY ART SHOW KIT FOR ALL AGES

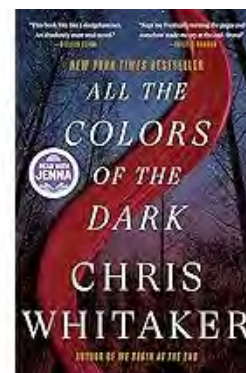
PICK UP INSIDE THE LIBRARY AS SUPPLIES LAST BEGINNING
SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025.

CREATE ART ON A TINY CANVAS! RETURN YOUR MASTERPIECE BACK TO THE LIBRARY TO BE A PART OF OUR TINY ART SHOW EXHIBIT AT THE HARKER HEIGHTS ARTS FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH, 2025 AT CARL LEVIN PARK (400 MILLERS CROSSING, HARKER HEIGHTS, TX).

TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE RETURN YOUR ARTWORK TO THE LIBRARY BY
SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH, 2025.

THE EXHIBIT WILL MOVE TO THE LIBRARY AFTER THE FESTIVAL AND RUN FROM
APRIL 12TH - 26TH, 2025.

Book Discussion for Adults | Thursday, March 20 Enjoy a lively discussion of "All the Colors of the Dark: by Chris Whitaker. 1975 is a time of change in America. The Vietnam War is ending. Muhammad Ali is fighting Joe Frazier. And in the smalltown of Monta Clare, Missouri, girls are disappearing. When the daughter of a wealthy family is targeted, the most unlikely hero emerges—Patch, a local boy, who saves the girl, and, in doing so, leaves heartache in his wake.



Coming Soon: Spring Book Sale !

Friday, April 25, 2025 | 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 PM |
Saturday, April 26, 2025 | 8:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.

Shop the Friends of the Library's Spring Book Sale and find gently used books, DVDs, and more at low prices! Join the Friends of the Library or renew your membership NOW or on site to gain entry to the Early Bird Sale on Friday from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Membership is only \$10.00!



Parks & Recreation Department

RECREATION CENTER

The Harker Heights Recreation Center will be hosting an Ability Tennis Fun Day on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, from 8:30 am – 11:00 am in the gymnasium. The Parks & Recreation Department was awarded the USTA Texas Grow the Game Grant (GTG). The grant is designed to help boost new and existing tennis programs in communities throughout Texas. The fun day is free to register, and space is limited to 30 participants. Representatives and volunteers from USTA Texas will demonstrate and teach participants to love the game of tennis. Register online <https://secure.recl.com/TX/harker-heights-tx/catalog> or in person at the Harker Heights Recreation Center (307 Miller's Crossing, Harker Heights, TX 76548).

ABILITY SPORTS

Ability basketball began on February 24th with twenty-six participants. The season concludes on March 31st .



SPORTS

- ❖ **Youth Volleyball** season registration is full with a growing waitlist.
- ❖ **Youth Volleyball Camp** (Spring Break) registration is 80% full and filling fast.
- ❖ **Youth Basketball Camp** (June 9-11, June 16-18, July 7-9, July 14-16) registration is open with limit availability.



AQUATICS

Staff are busy hiring part-time Lifeguards, Aquatics Cashiers, Aquatics Supervisors, and Water Safety Instructors (WSI)

Swim Lessons signup will begin May 17th in conjunction with the Dive into Summer Safety event being held at Carl Levin park.



SENIOR RECREATION

Active Seniors (50+) are invited to **PLAY** a variety of recreational activities and games on Thursdays from 11:00 am – 12:45 pm at the Recreation Center. Each month there will be a new activity to keep participants moving and having fun. March's activity is indoor baseball. There will be no class on March 20, 2025.



The "Old Glories" Granny Basketball team is taking on the Harker Heights City Staff in the Battle of the Court Annual Granny Basketball Benefit Game. The game will be held on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at 1:00 pm at the Harker Heights Recreation Center, 307 Miller's Crossing. Admission is a non-perishable food item or a new package of socks or underwear, benefiting the KISD Homeless Awareness Response Program (H.A.R.P.). Come cheer on the teams and help support a good cause.

- ❖ BINGO will be on Thursday, March 20, 2025, from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center.



- ❖ Ladies Night Out will be on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 5:00 pm. The group will be visiting Taqueria Mexico 3 in Harker Heights. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own meal. Registration is preferred and can be done in person at the Recreation Center.



- ❖ Lunch & Learn is scheduled for Friday, March 21, 2025, from 11:45 am – 1:30 pm. The topic of discussion is: USO Fort Cavazos information & volunteer opportunities with guest speaker Julie Mendez, USO – Center Operations Manager. Space is limited; pre-registration required by calling 254-953-5657 or in person at the Recreation Center.



Parks & Recreation Department

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Department is hosting the “**We Love Our Schools Food Drive**” to benefit the Killeen ISD H.A.R.P.

(Homeless Awareness Response Program) from now to the end of March 2025. Donation boxes are located at the Activity Center lobby on 400 Indian Trail, at the Recreation Center lobby on 307 Miller’s Crossing, and at City Hall on 305 Miller’s Crossing.

Items that are needed include: Pasta, rice, mac and cheese, starches, non-perishable snacks, ramen noodles, can openers, and canned veggies. High needed items are peanut butter, chili, soup, pasta sauce, canned fruit, canned meat, and beans.

For questions regarding the food drive, please contact Sara Gibbs at 254-953-5493 or email sgibbs@harkerheights.gov.



The Harker Heights Arts Festival will take place on Saturday, April 5, 2025, at Carl Levin Park. Vendor applications for local artists are open. Follow the Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Department’s Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/harkerheightspr/> for more information.



Parks & Recreation Department

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

It's time for spring cleaning. The **Spring Community Garage Sale** will be on Saturday, March 15, 2025, from 7:00 am – 5:00 pm throughout the Harker Heights City Limits. Residents are invited to participate and host a garage sale at their own home on this day. Residents and non-residents are also welcome to shop around the city and try their luck at finding unique items. For questions, email sgibbs@harkerheights.gov.



The City of Harker Heights is excited to announce the **First Fridays Music Series** a concert series that will be held on the First Friday starting on April 4 at the Carl Levin Park Amphitheater. Five additional concerts are scheduled for Friday, May 2, Friday, June 6, Friday September 5, Friday October 3 and Friday November 7.

The events will be held from 7:00pm- 9:00pm. The First Friday's series will showcase talented musical performing groups. The G-Samuels Band will be the featured act for the inaugural concert on April 4. This family-friendly event is free and open to the public. Families and friends are invited to the park for free music, food vendors, and more. Attendees are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy a picnic on the amphitheater lawn.

- ❖ Friday April 4- G. Samuels
- ❖ Friday, May 2- Glen Meloy
- ❖ Friday, June 6- First Calvary Division Pop Band from Fort Cavazos
- ❖ Friday, September 5- Harker Heights High School
- ❖ Friday, October 3- Lucas Miller
- ❖ Friday, November 7- Purple Hull



GO Heights!

Join us for the annual Outdoor Education and Science Expo. This year's Expo will be held on Saturday March 22, 2025, from 9am-1pm at the Harker Heights Recreation Center (307 Miller's Crossing). The Expo is a free family-friendly event. Bring seeds for a seed swap, visit educational Booths, participate in outdoor activities (weather dependent) and more.



- ❖ There are volunteer opportunities available with the Get Outside Program. Make new friends while sharing your passion with others. Volunteer with our hiking programs, nature education, or teach outdoor skills to those in your community. We welcome both individuals and groups. For more information contact kgomez@harkerheights.gov or call 254-953-5465.
- ❖ Garden plots are available at Carl Levin Park Community Garden. Winter is a great time to grow carrots, cruciferous vegetables, greens, and more. Each raised bed is 4 ft. x 8 ft. The garden provides access to water with hoses and a shed for storage of personal gardening tools. For more information visit us at the Recreation Center (307 Miller's Crossing) or call 254-953-5465.



**Coffee with a Cop at Black Rifle Coffee Company:
Thursday, March 13th from 9am – 11am.**



❖ **Harker Heights Police Department Health Fair:
Saturday, May 17th from 11am to 2pm at the
Activities Center.**



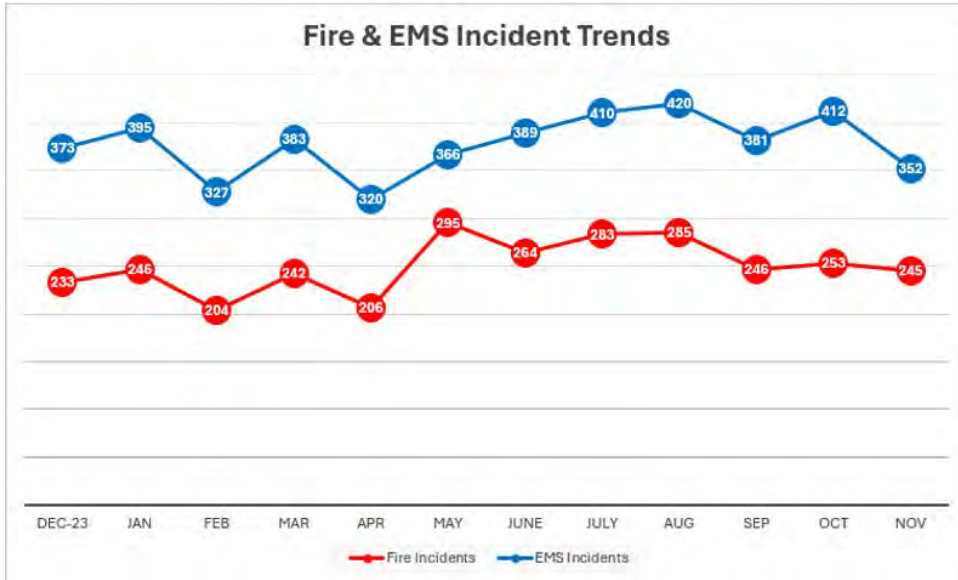
❖ **Heights Cares Committee: March 13th
at 10:30am at the Library.**

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Harker Heights Fire Department recently purchased Forty-four sets of new turnout gear, boots, helmets and hoods. Thirty-nine personnel assigned to the Operations Division will now be issued a primary and a reserve set of turnout gear, which will reduce exposure to known carcinogens present during firefighting operations. The men and women of the Harker Heights Fire Department would like to thank Mayor Blomquist, the members of the Harker Heights City Council, and city leadership for your unwavering support of the Harker Heights Fire Department.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

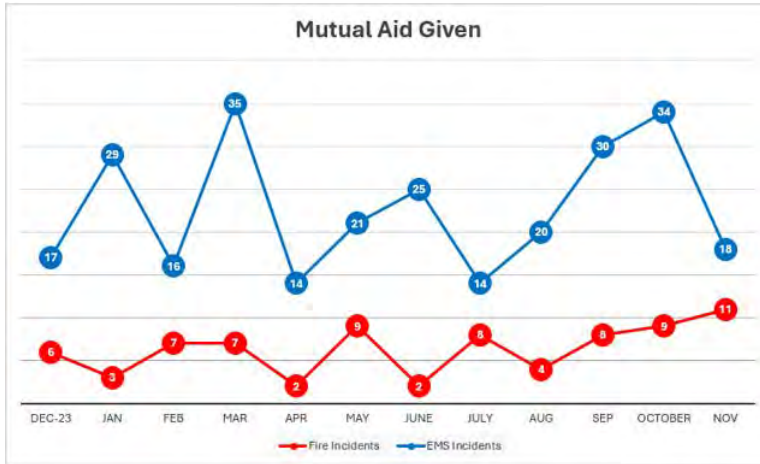


Yearly Incident Totals

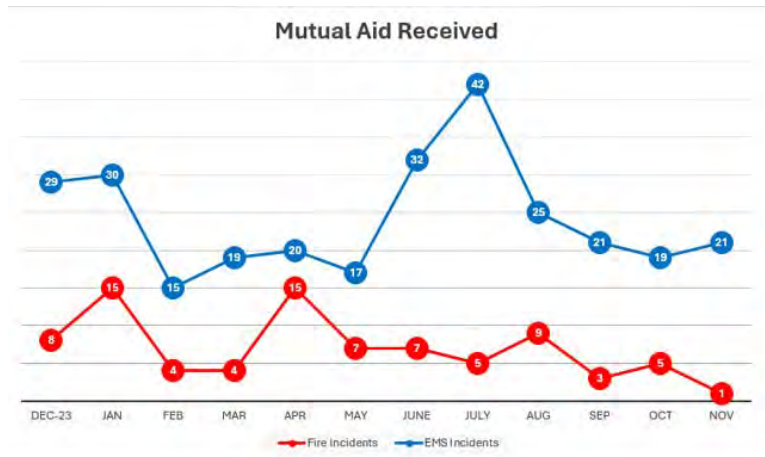
- EMS – 4,528
- Fire – 3,002

Monthly Average

- EMS – 377
- Fire – 250



EMS – 257
Fire - 76



EMS – 290
Fire - 83

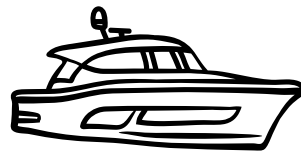
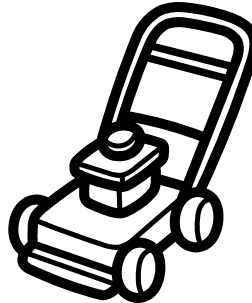
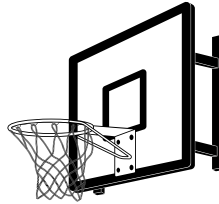
FEBRUARY 2025

CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

Monthly Summary

February 1 thru
February 28, 2025

Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass Parking	40	37.74%
Other*	22	20.75%
Outside Storage	19	17.92%
Bulk Items	9	8.49%
Brush	3	2.83%
Grass	3	2.83%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	3	2.83%
Tires	2	1.89%
Basketball Goal	1	0.94%
Fencing	1	0.94%
Junk Vehicle	1	0.94%
Maintenance	1	0.94%
Trailer	1	0.94%
Boat	0	0.00%
Building Inspection	0	0.00%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%
Skirting	0	0.00%
Trash	0	0.00%
Tree limbs	0	0.00%
Total	106	100.00%



Fiscal Year Summary

October 1, 2024 thru
September 30, 2025

Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass Parking	119	26.27%
Grass	86	18.98%
Outside Storage	80	17.66%
Other*	73	16.11%
Bulk Items	36	7.95%
Brush	17	3.75%
Trailer	11	2.43%
Basketball Goal	8	1.77%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	6	1.32%
Fencing	4	0.88%
Tree limbs	4	0.88%
Maintenance	3	0.66%
Tires	3	0.66%
Skirting	2	0.44%
Junk Vehicle	1	0.22%
Boat	0	0.00%
Building Inspection	0	0.00%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%
Trash	0	0.00%
Total	453	100.00%





City of Harker Heights
Planning & Development
305 Miller's Crossing
Harker Heights, TX 76548
planning@harkerheights.gov

Economic Development Report

JANUARY 2025 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued **zero (0)** new commercial permits within the month of January.

The City issued **two (2)** commercial remodeling permits within the month of January.

- 2101 Memory Lane, Suite #108
 - Valued at \$48,000.00
- 2101 Memory Lane, Suite #107
 - Valued at \$39,000.00

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued a total of **one (1)** permit for single-family residential construction within the month of January.

- 1600 Pontotoc Trace
 - Valued at \$250,000.00

The City issued a total of **six (6)** permits for two-family (duplex) residential construction within the month of January.

- 502 South Harley Drive
 - Valued at \$300,000.00
- 1715 Tejas Trail
 - Valued at \$400,000.00
- 1713 Tejas Trail
 - Valued at \$400,000.00
- 1717 Tejas Trail
 - Valued at \$400,000.00
- 1719 Tejas Trail
 - Valued at \$400,000.00
- 224 West Beeline Lane
 - Valued at \$220,000.00

To date in calendar year 2025 (January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025) the City has issued a total of seven (7) residential permits: one (1) new single-family permits, six (6) new two-family permits, and zero (0) new multi-family permits.

POPULATION ESTIMATES

As of January 31, 2025, the estimated population for the City of Harker Heights is **35,966** residents. According to the US Census, the population as of April 1, 2020, was 33,097 residents. Since that time, we have added 966 new water accounts with an average household size of 2.97.



City of Harker Heights
Planning & Development
305 Miller's Crossing
Harker Heights, TX 76548
planning@harkerheights.gov

Economic Development Report **FEBRUARY 2025 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY REPORT**

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued zero (0) commercial construction permits within the month of February.

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued a total of **seven (7)** permits for single-family residential construction within the month of February.

- Five (5) new permits issued for Cedar Trails Subdivision
 - Valued at \$722,087.00 total
- 1 new permit issued for 890 End O Trail
 - Valued at \$250,000.00
- 1 new permit issued for 1616 Pima Trail
 - Valued at \$290,000.00

The City issued a total of **three (3)** permits for two-family (duplex) residential construction within the month of February.

- 3 new permits issued for Pima Trail
 - Valued at \$870,000.00 total

To date in calendar year 2025 (January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025) the City has issued a total of seventeen (17) residential permits: eight (8) new single-family permits, nine (9) new two-family permits, and zero (0) new multi-family permits.

POPULATION ESTIMATES

As of February 28, 2025, the estimated population for the City of Harker Heights is **35,933** residents. According to the US Census, the population as of April 1, 2020, was 33,097 residents. Since that time, we have added 955 new water accounts with an average household size of 2.97.



Finance Department



ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
January	\$601,807.73	\$458,586.58	\$425,468.44	\$431,215.89	\$347,598.93
February	\$500,095.41	\$534,106.66	\$473,232.50	\$447,458.01	\$259,558.94
March		\$505,890.78	\$457,827.45	\$427,327.54	\$337,154.90
April		\$449,213.99	\$404,428.51	\$450,611.99	\$341,911.77
May		\$470,065.16	\$577,032.32	\$457,447.36	\$455,951.18*
June		\$455,755.87	\$508,923.56	\$559,624.69	\$457,853.17
July		\$632,588.50	\$549,266.57	\$593,523.31	\$474,837.86
August		\$648,863.93	\$700,084.97	\$626,576.19	\$473,342.17
September		\$623,481.36	\$732,809.66	\$733,557.95	\$575,867.17
October		\$741,027.48	\$640,193.47	\$550,329.57	\$615,499.23
November		\$698,851.87	\$644,238.19	\$597,938.12	\$488,924.69
December		\$626,161.64	\$560,893.99	\$529,760.67	\$540,030.51

*As of April 26, 2021, automatic credit card drafts are now part of the online utility bill payment totals.

AUTOMATED PHONE PAYMENTS



	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
January	\$153,706.27	\$111,335.93	\$104,768.73	\$110,804.07	\$122,588.54
February	\$120,398.04	\$122,733.86	\$120,067.52	\$107,542.69	\$90,974.33
March		\$113,274.41	\$114,106.26	\$112,330.20	\$143,922.62
April		\$97,246.60	\$98,130.13	\$110,142.69	\$126,015.15
May		\$109,383.84	\$128,587.47	\$111,214.36	\$114,615.29
June		\$103,002.72	\$117,678.21	\$126,583.78	\$117,093.13
July		\$128,211.92	\$116,990.27	\$127,979.57	\$114,493.61
August		\$140,993.30	\$160,801.83	\$136,631.66	\$121,311.92
September		\$133,158.99	\$149,676.66	\$153,943.37	\$128,969.57
October		\$163,763.26	\$140,226.20	\$120,331.11	\$133,559.38
November		\$133,455.63	\$141,456.45	\$131,364.63	\$109,105.34
December		\$137,429.14	\$117,512.11	\$114,240.31	\$115,096.07



KIOSK PAYMENTS

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
January	\$17,951.79	\$15,526.79	\$14,230.92	\$9,974.61	\$13,714.61
February	\$13,417.71	\$14,866.27	\$17,296.49	\$12,965.79	\$11,058.25
March		\$16,016.08	\$13,010.92	\$13,519.99	\$16,168.18
April		\$13,150.82	\$12,552.09	\$13,777.77	\$14,514.82
May		\$11,855.53	\$16,807.66	\$14,264.27	\$12,642.08
June		\$16,060.62	\$16,308.52	\$17,616.84	\$13,961.69
July		\$16,487.65	\$16,201.62	\$19,794.27	\$13,973.86
August		\$19,529.80	\$21,416.32	\$17,131.77	\$13,053.66
September		\$15,348.97	\$21,162.07	\$21,855.49	\$15,046.80
October		\$22,682.46	\$16,367.61	\$17,549.59	\$19,801.71
November		\$18,150.19	\$20,801.21	\$17,225.45	\$14,707.98
December		\$15,997.56	\$15,884.88	\$19,102.03	\$14,030.94

NUMBER OF E-BILLS SENT OUT



	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
January	4,452	4,165	3,798	3,565	3,245
February	4,481	4,192	3,811	3,566	3,290
March		4,222	3,852	3,555	3,293
April		4,264	3,922	3,603	3,321
May		4,256	3,927	3,654	3,364
June		4,307	3,960	3,698	3,396
July		4,318	4,061	3,695	3,461
August		4,369	4,021	3,747	3,505
September		4,372	4,054	3,746	3,523
October		4,382	4,092	3,789	3,536
November		4,404	4,105	3,757	3,548
December		4,435	4,128	3,749	3,533